

THE FISH HAWK HERALD



Coeur d'Alene Chapter of the National Audubon Society
www.cdaaudubon.org

January 2022

Volume 31 Number 5

January 2022 Program

January 11, Tuesday

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Due to the increase in the number of COVID cases, this will be a zoom meeting. Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84391997180?pwd=cFNFRkdhRmcyWFRkNDBqZnJsUnZsdz09>

Meeting ID: 843 9199 7180

Passcode: 691353



Program: A young Falconer will present a program about falconry. He will tell how he became

interested in falconry, the steps he took to then becoming a falconer, and what a falconer does.



Board Meeting

Date: January 11, Tuesday

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Place: Zoom meeting

Anyone interested in joining our team on the board call Ralph at 208-660-3220



President's Message

First, let me wish each of you a Happy New Year. May your 2022 be a year of health and happiness.

This is my first time writing "2022" and it feels as strange as every year has when we have to write the new year on official documents etc. Go ahead and call me old but it seems like I just got used to writing 2021 consistently.

Our most recent birding event was the CBC (Christmas Bird Count.) I probably should be embarrassed to admit that it was the first time I participated in the CBC. It was my privilege to join Shirley in counting the Fernan Lake territory. To my surprise there were more birds to count than I expected for this time of year. Counting waterfowl on the lake while it was snowing created a real challenge identifying species where the fine detail markings were essential to identification. The CBC was an enjoyable experience in spite of the weather.

Continued on Page 2

President's Message

Continued from page 1



Our particular area included Fernan Village. Any of you who frequent Fernan Village, or drive the road through there on your way to the lake and beyond, often

see Wild Turkeys. Would you believe we drove every street in Fernan Village (some more than once) and were never able to find the Wild Turkeys to include in our count.

I know many of you participated in the CBC and I encourage you to join in our January meeting with a report of some bird you may have seen that was unexpected, or just report on what you saw. Thank you for your participation, and I hope you will participate in the CBC again.

Speaking of the January meeting, which will again be held via Zoom, I would like to tell you about the program. One of our members referred me to a 14 year old young man who is a falconer. He has agreed to present our program. I, for one, am particularly interested in how he became interested in falconry and what it takes to become a falconer. Please join us via zoom to enjoy this program.

Winter brings with it opportunities for seasonal activities. You know them well. Skiing is likely to come to mind at the top of your list, but there are many other activities to be enjoyed during the winter

season, and observation of winter time birds fits right in. Personally, I like to travel around the local area and look at the winter landscapes which often include opportunities of bird observation, including an occasional, unexpected species. One winter, in another part of the US, I happened upon a Snowy Owl sitting on a fence post near the country road. It was a special find for me. Locally, a couple of weeks ago, I came upon a flock of Snow Buntings on the Rathdrum Prairie.

What about strapping on some snow shoes and following a trail you walked during the summer. Maybe you enjoy ice skating on a frozen pond or on an ice rink in a park such as McCuen Park in Coeur d'Alene. The list could go on.

Our participation in the Library Birding Backpack project has moved along well. The board, at our December board meeting, learned that an adult backpack had been completed and already checked out. Completion of the children's backpack was coming together nicely. Pam has taken the lead working with the library and I give special thanks to her. I also extend thanks to others who participated with Pam.

May I share a personal experience with you? My wife and I drove to Denver, CO to celebrate Christmas with close friends. While traveling in Wyoming, I watched a Bald Eagle flying away from the road. I then turned my attention back to the road and almost immediately there were three Bald Eagles (2 adults and 1 juvenile) in flight right in front of me approximately 30-40 feet away.

Continued on Page 3

President's Message

Continued from page 2

It is quite a sight to see 3 birds of that size so close while cruising down the hi-way. I assume there was a carcass near the road and they had been feeding on it until I came along. What a thrill.

As cold temperatures and snow take us through the heart of North Idaho winter there will probably be increased activity at your bird feeder. Sometimes it is fun to just sit and enjoy the activity, and maybe there will be a pleasant surprise at your feeder. How ever you spend your time observing birds this winter, enjoy every minute of it and please share your adventures with us during an Audubon Meeting, or with Shirley to put in the newsletter.

Happy Birding. Ralph Kerr



Kootenai County Big Year Additions

See:

<http://cdaudubon.org/Projects/kootenaico2021.html>

Our goal is 200 - we are at 191

Glaucous Gull - 1st cycle- December 21 -
Spokane River off of the NIC Dike Road -
Terry and Joshua Little

Snowy Owl - 1 - December 9 - Wyoming Ave.
Between Huetter and Meyer Rds. -Tom
Davenport

Short-eared Owl - 1 - November 24 - Along
Wyoming Rd. between Meyer and Huetter Rds. -
David Yake - later found by Midge and Jim
Brennan Nov. 26 - and by Doug Ward December
17

Snow Bunting - 17 - November 24 - Along
Wyoming Rd. between Meyer and Huetter Rds. -
David Yake - and 2 - December 17 - Wyoming
and Meyer Road - Ryan Bart

Other Bird Sighting

Cackling Goose - 2 - December 2 - Blue
Creek Bay, - David Yake

Lesser Black-backed Gull - 1 - Nov. 26 -
Higgins Point - Ben Bright and -1 -
December 2 - Blue Creek Bay - David Yake
(possibly the same one) - also 2 - December
21 - Spokane River off of the NIC Dike Road
- Terry and Joshua Little

Herring Gull - 3 - December 2 - Blue Creek
Bay - David Yake and -1- December 3 - Wolf
Lodge Bay - Ryan Bart

Bonaparte's Gull - 1 - December 2 - Blue
Creek Bay, - David Yake

Iceland Gull - 2 - December 2 - Blue
Creek Bay, - David Yake

Common Loon - 7 - December 2 - Blue Creek
Bay - David Yake

Rough-legged Hawk - 2 - December 12
Weet Wyoming Ave. Ryan Bart

Short-eared Owl - 1 - December 21 - Lovell
Valley Road, Benewah County 0- Cameron
Heusser

Brown Creeper - 1 - December 12 - Post
Falls Community Forest - Ryan Bart

Mica Bay Survey



I was the only one on the survey. Temperature was 31 to 35 degrees, growing colder as the morning progressed.

High overcast and light rain overnight. Winds were from the S.W. to 10 mph. Survey begun at 9:10 and ended at 10:45. Results:

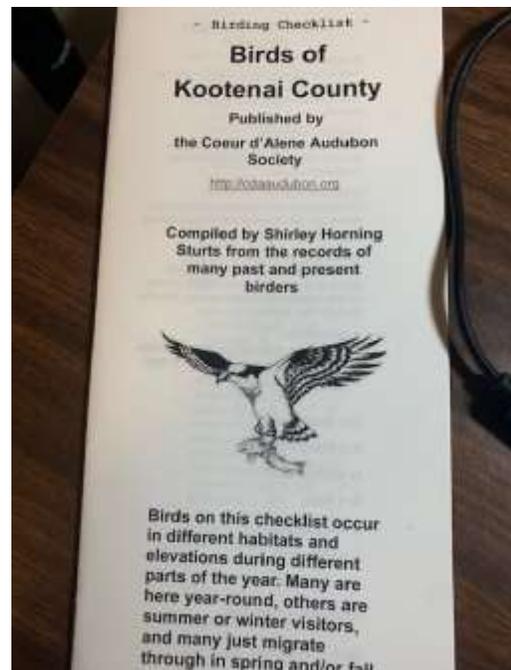
Canada Goose 32, Mallard 7, Ring-necked Duck 1, Bufflehead 5, Common Goldeneye 2, Common Merganser 1, Red-necked Grebe 2, Ring-billed Gull 9, Herring Gull 1, Bald Eagle 1 (juvenile), Common Raven 2, Northern Flicker 2, Black-caped Chickadee 10, American Robin 1, Song Sparrow 1, . Mr. Hanson reported seeing very few birds at his feeder lately and I saw only a single American Robin in his yard. There was a moose so that was fun. All the best. *Ted Smith*

was gray and windy but the eagles were flying and we saw quite a few. At one point, we could see 26 Bald Eagles perched in the trees on the south shore of Beauty Bay. We also saw, Red-necked Grebe, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, and possibly a Western Grebe from Higgins Point. There were no loons sighted which was disappointing.

Dick and I drove down to Wolf Lodge Bay to check things there. We found about 20 Herring Gull and 20 Bufflehead. Common and Barrow's Goldeneye, Mallard, and a couple of American Coot were also present. Like Dick says: "we saw what was there to see".

Ted Smith

Kootenai County Bird Checklist



Higgins Point Field Trip

November 29th

We had a fair turnout for the Higgins Point field trip. Dick Cripe, Patty and Jim Byers, Sally Jones, David Yake and I all attended. It

These are available at the Coeur d'Alene Public Library

Fieldtrips and Activities

Mica Bay Survey

Date: January 11, Tuesday

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Meet: Fairmont Loop and Highway 95

Leader: Janet Callen

Activity: We spend about 3 hours once a month counting birds at Mica Bay Beginner birders are welcome

The Great Backyard Bird Count

From Cornell Lab of Ornithology

We are just two months out from the count! Join us February 18-21, 2022.

Watch the Birds this Holiday and Practice for GBBC!

In 2021, we had a record number of participants enter bird sightings—more than 300,000 people from around the world! Many people chose to use the Merlin Bird ID App to share sightings, which is wonderful. For 2022, if you want to tell us more about the specific numbers and diversity of birds you are seeing or hearing, consider trying eBird. We offer a [FREE eBird Essentials course](#) that will help you enter birds either on your phone or computer. While enjoying the birds with friends and family this holiday season, consider practicing entering bird data so your February count is seamless. Or, if you are an eBird wiz, maybe [Merlin Sound ID](#) will be a fun new way to share birds!

Winter Wings Festival

Dates: Friday, February 18, 2022 through Sunday, February 20, 2022



Host site: Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech), 3201 Campus Drive, Klamath Falls, Oregon, 97601

Website: www.WinterWingsFest.org

Registration opens in mid-Dec. on date TBA
For information call 877-541-BIRD (2473)
or email to info@winterwingsfest.org

Get ready for a 2022 Winter Wings Festival like no other! Winter Wings brings together birders and photographers to learn and explore with top notch professionals and enthusiastic local guides. The Klamath Basin is renowned for its massive wintering population of Bald Eagles, but is prime habitat for many other raptors including owls, as well as a diversity of waterfowl.

The 2022 Festival will feature Richard Crossley, author of the Crossley ID Guides and co-author of Ornithology: For Your Mind, Body, and Soul. For our photography keynote we are excited to have Jennifer Leigh Warner, conservation wildlife photographer. Join us for an extensive array of field trips, workshops, presentations, and receptions that highlight the wonders of the Klamath Basin in winter. On Friday, Feb. 18th we will have several presentations on the status of Klamath Basin wetlands and partner initiatives.

**CDA Audubon Chapter
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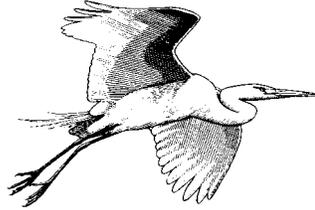
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New Member Application**

Join Online at:
<http://www.audubon.org>

or

Join by Phone – call:
1-844-428-3826

Reference our Chapter
Code G06



Local Membership Dues

- Individual \$10.00
- Family \$15.00
- Individual \$25.00 - with hard copy
of the newsletter
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the newsletter
- Additional donation_____

Total \$ _____

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